



BERLIN

Worcester County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

The Town of Berlin lies in a low range of hills between the Nashua and the Assabet River Valleys. Incorporated in 1812, the town is a residential and agricultural community, growing mixed hay grains and raising cattle. For a period after the Civil War, Berlin was home to a large shoe factory, and shoe manufacturing and lumbering provided non-agrarian jobs. The town soon moved into specialty market gardening, sending 41,000 bunches of asparagus to market in 1885, growing hops and raising chickens. By 1940, 83,600 dozen eggs were produced annually by the poultry farmers of Berlin. Berlin continues to be a small, stable town, with a handsome Victorian town hall, the walls of which incorporate the pictures of Berlin residents who went to fight in the Civil War. One of the local attractions at the turn of the century, "Balance Rock", remains untouched by change.

(Seal supplied by community. Narrative based on information provided by the Massachusetts Historical Commission)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Central eastern Massachusetts, bordered by Bolton on the north, Hudson and Marlborough on the east, Northborough on the south, and Boylston and Clinton on the west. Berlin is 15 miles northeast of Worcester, 34 miles west of Boston, and 192 miles from New York City.

Total Area: 13.09 sq. miles

Land Area: 12.93 sq. miles

Population: 2,293

Density: 177 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Clinton Station)

Normal temperature in January.....23.4°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.3°F

Normal annual precipitation.....47.0"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Clinton, Hudson, Shrewsbury, Marlborough

Regional Planning Agency

Central Massachusetts

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (978) 838-2442

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1812

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	1,402		
Democrats	326	23.3	%
Republicans	270	19.3	%
Other parties	0	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	806	57.5	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Berlin town, Worcester County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	2,380	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	2,380	100.0
Male.....	1,189	50.0	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	12	0.5
Female.....	1,191	50.0	Mexican.....	3	0.1
Under 5 years.....	172	7.2	Puerto Rican.....	2	0.1
5 to 9 years.....	158	6.6	Cuban.....	1	-
10 to 14 years.....	177	7.4	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	6	0.3
15 to 19 years.....	132	5.5	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	2,368	99.5
20 to 24 years.....	82	3.4	White alone.....	2,315	97.3
25 to 34 years.....	261	11.0	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	458	19.2	Total population.....	2,380	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	395	16.6	In households.....	2,372	99.7
55 to 59 years.....	152	6.4	Householder.....	872	36.6
60 to 64 years.....	98	4.1	Spouse.....	565	23.7
65 to 74 years.....	180	7.6	Child.....	751	31.6
75 to 84 years.....	86	3.6	Own child under 18 years.....	549	23.1
85 years and over.....	29	1.2	Other relatives.....	100	4.2
Median age (years).....	39.5	(X)	Under 18 years.....	39	1.6
18 years and over.....	1,784	75.0	Nonrelatives.....	84	3.5
Male.....	880	37.0	Unmarried partner.....	40	1.7
Female.....	904	38.0	In group quarters.....	8	0.3
21 years and over.....	1,723	72.4	Institutionalized population.....	-	-
62 years and over.....	345	14.5	Noninstitutionalized population.....	8	0.3
65 years and over.....	295	12.4	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	122	5.1	Total households.....	872	100.0
Female.....	173	7.3	Family households (families).....	666	76.4
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	301	34.5
One race.....	2,361	99.2	Married-couple family.....	565	64.8
White.....	2,323	97.6	With own children under 18 years.....	252	28.9
Black or African American.....	4	0.2	Female householder, no husband present.....	71	8.1
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	2	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	38	4.4
Asian.....	23	1.0	Nonfamily households.....	206	23.6
Asian Indian.....	5	0.2	Householder living alone.....	163	18.7
Chinese.....	3	0.1	Householder 65 years and over.....	71	8.1
Filipino.....	4	0.2	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	326	37.4
Japanese.....	8	0.3	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	215	24.7
Korean.....	2	0.1	Average household size.....	2.72	(X)
Vietnamese.....	1	-	Average family size.....	3.13	(X)
Other Asian ¹	-	-	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-	Total housing units.....	893	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	872	97.6
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	21	2.4
Samoa.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	2	0.2
Some other race.....	9	0.4	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.6	(X)
Two or more races.....	19	0.8	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.4	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races:</i> ³			Occupied housing units.....	872	100.0
White.....	2,342	98.4	Owner-occupied housing units.....	706	81.0
Black or African American.....	4	0.2	Renter-occupied housing units.....	166	19.0
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	17	0.7	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.86	(X)
Asian.....	25	1.1	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.14	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-			
Some other race.....	11	0.5			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State: 0

Conventional Federal: 0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP: 0

Federal (Section 8): 0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Located in the Worcester region, which has three major cross-state highways: the Worcester Turnpike (Route 9), Route 20, and the Massachusetts Turnpike. I-495 borders to the east, I-190 links to the Fitchburg-Leominster area, I-84 and I-395 connect to Connecticut and points south. The region is well connected by rail and highway to the ports, airports, and intermodal facilities of Boston and Providence.

Major Highways

Principal highways are State Route 62 and Interstate Route 495, with an interchange in the town.

Rail

Conrail services a freight rail line through Berlin. Contact number: (617) 783-6222

Bus

Berlin is a member of the Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA) but does not receive services.

Other

The Worcester Municipal Airport, a Primary Commercial (PR) facility, with scheduled passenger service is easily accessible. It has 2 asphalt runways 5/500' and 6,999' long. Instrument approaches available: Precision and non-precision.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Berlin Art and Historical Collections
Woodward Avenue
(978) 838-2502

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.